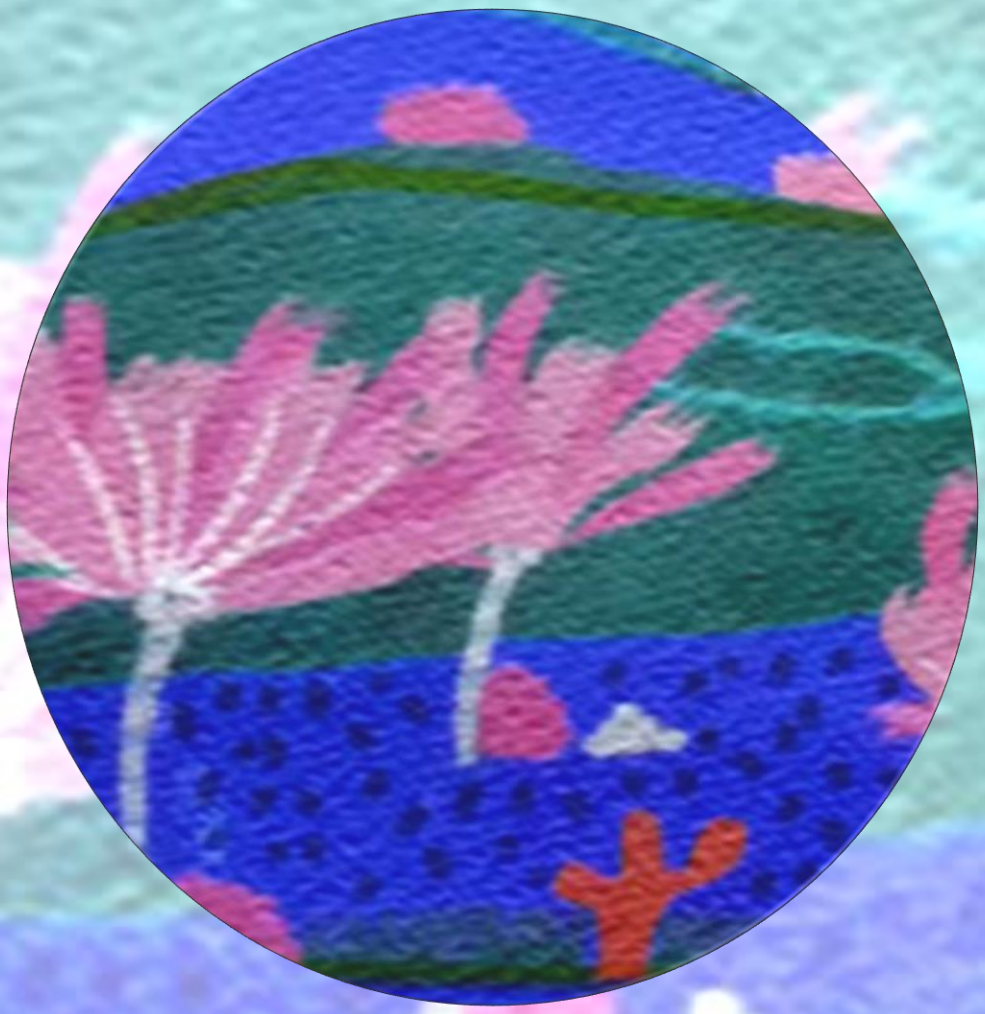
2 ESDRAS 7



1611 KING JAMES VERSION

Arranged By M. Love

Love-Light Press and Studios, 2025

2 ESDRAS 7

7:1 And when I had made an end of speaking these words, there was sent unto me the angel which had been sent unto me the nights afore:

7:2 And he said unto me, Up, Esdras, and hear the words that I am come to tell thee.
7:3 And I said, Speak on, my God. Then said he unto me, The sea is set in

a wide place,
that it might be
deep and great.
7:4 But put
the case the
entrance were
narrow, and
like a river;
7:5 Who then
could go into the
sea to look upon

it, and to rule it? if he went not through the narrow, how could he come into the broad?

7:6 There is also another thing; A city is builded, and set upon a broad field, and

is full of
all good things:
7:7 The entrance
thereof is
narrow, and
is set in a
dangerous place
to fall, like as if
there were a fire
on the right
hand, and on the

left a deep water:
7:8 And one only path between them both, even between the fire and the water, so small that there could but one man go there at once.
7:9 If this city

now were given unto a man for an inheritance, if he never shall pass the danger set before it, how shall he receive this inheritance?

7:10 And I said, It is so, Lord. Then

said he unto me, Even so also is Israel's portion.
7:11 Because for their sakes I made the world: and when Adam trans-gressed my statutes, then was decreed that

now is done.
7:12 Then were
the entrances of
this world made
narrow, full of
sorrow and
travail: they are
but few and evil,
full of perils,:
and very painful.
7:13 For the

entrances of the elder world were wide and sure, and brought immortal fruit.

7:14 If then they that live labour not to enter these strait and vain things, they can never

receive those
that are laid
up for them.
7:15 Now
therefore why
disquietest thou
thyself, seeing
thou art but a
corruptible man?
and why art thou
moved, whereas

thou art but mortal?
7:16 Why hast thou not considered in thy mind this thing that is to come, rather than that which is present?
7:17 Then

answered I and said, O Lord that bearest rule, thou hast ordained in thy law, that the righteous should inherit these things, but that the ungodly should perish.

7:18 Nevertheless the righteous shall suffer strait things, and hope for wide: for they that have done wickedly have suffered the strait things, and yet shall not see the wide.

7:19 And he said unto me. There is no judge above God, and none that hath understanding above the Highest.
7:20 For there be many that perish in this life,

because they despise the law of God that is set before them.
7:21 For God hath given strait commandment to such as came, what they should do to live, even as they came,

and what they should observe to avoid punishment.

7:22 Nevertheless they were not obedient unto him; but spake against him, and imagined vain things;

7:23 And deceived themselves by their wicked deeds; and said of the most High, that he is not; and knew not his ways:
7:24 But his law have they

despised, and denied his covenants; in his statutes have they not been faithful, and have not performed his works.

7:25 And therefore,

Esdras, for the empty are empty things, and for the full are the full things.

7:26 Behold, the time shall come, that these tokens which I have

told thee shall come to pass, and the bride shall appear, and she coming forth shall be seen, that now is withdrawn from the earth.

7:27 And

whosoever is delivered from the foresaid evils shall see my wonders.

7:28 For my son Jesus shall be revealed with those that be with him, and they that remain

shall rejoice within four hundred years.
7:29 After these years shall my son Christ die, and all men that have life.
7:30 And the world shall be turned into the

old silence
seven days,
like as in the
former
judgments:
so that no man
shall remain.
7:31 And after
seven days
the world, that
yet awaketh not,

shall be raised up, and that shall die that is corrupt.

7:32 And the earth shall restore those that are asleep in her, and so shall the dust those that dwell

in silence, and the secret places shall deliver those souls that were committed unto them.

7:33 And the most High shall appear upon the seat of judgment, and

misery shall pass away, and the long suffering shall have an end:
7:34 But judgment only shall remain, truth shall stand, and faith shall wax strong:

7:35 And the work shall follow, and the reward shall be shewed, and the good deeds shall be of force, and wicked deeds shall bear no rule.

7:36 Then said I, Abraham prayed first for the Sodomites, and Moses for the fathers that sinned in the wilderness:
7:37 And Jesus after him for Israel in the time

of Achan:
7:38 And Samuel
and David for
the destruction:
and Solomon
for them that
should come to
the sanctuary:
7:39 And Helias
for those that
received rain;

and for the dead, that he might live:
7:40 And Ezechias for the people in the time of Sennacherib: and many for many.
7:41 Even so

now, seeing corruption is grown up, and wickedness increased, and the righteous have prayed for the ungodly: wherefore shall it not be so now also?

7:42 He answered me, and said, This present life is not the end where much glory doth abide; therefore have they prayed for the weak.

7:43 But the day of doom shall be the end of this time, and the beginning of the immortality for to come, wherein corruption is past,

7:44 intemperance is at an end, infidelity is cut off, righteousness is grown, and truth is sprung up.
7:45 Then shall no man be able

to save him that is destroyed, nor to oppress him that hath gotten the victory.

7:46 I answered then and said, This is my first and last saying, that it had been better not to

have given the earth unto Adam: or else, when it was given him, to have restrained him from sinning.

7:47 For what profit is it for

men now in this present time to live in heaviness, and after death to look for punishment?

7:48 O thou Adam, what hast thou done? for though it was

thou that sinned,
thou art not
fallen alone,
but we all that
come of thee.
7:49 For what
profit is it unto
us, if there be
promised us an
immortal time,
whereas we have

done the works
that bring death?
7:50 And that
there is
promised us
an everlasting
hope, whereas
ourselves being
most wicked are
made vain?
7:51 And that

there are laid up for us dwellings of health and safety, whereas we have lived wickedly?

7:52 And that the glory of the most High is kept to defend them which have led

a wary life, whereas we have walked in the most wicked ways of all?

7:53 And that there should be shewed a paradise, whose fruit

endureth for ever, wherein is security and medicine, since we shall not enter into it?
7:54 (For we have walked in unpleasant places.)
7:55 And that

the faces of them which have used abstinence shall shine above the stars, whereas our faces shall be blacker than darkness?

7:56 For while we lived and

committed iniquity, we considered not that we should begin to suffer for it after death.
7:57 Then answered he me, and said, This is the condition of

the battle,
which man
that is born
upon the
earth shall
fight;
7:58 That, if he
be overcome,
he shall suffer
as thou hast
said: but if he

get the victory, he shall receive the thing that I say.
7:59 For this is the life whereof Moses spake unto the people while he lived, saying, Choose thee life, that

thou mayest live.

7:60 Nevertheless they believed not him, nor yet the prophets after him, no nor me which have spoken unto them,

7:61 That there

should not be such heaviness in their destruction, as shall be joy over them that are persuaded to salvation.

7:62 I answered then, and said, I know, Lord, that

the most High is called merciful, in that he hath mercy upon them which are not yet come into the world,
7:63 And upon those also that turn to his law;
7:64 And that he

is patient, and long suffereth those that have sinned, as his creatures;

7:65 And that he is bountiful, for he is ready to give where it needeth;

7:66 And that he

is of great mercy, for he multiplieth more and more mercies to them that are present, and that are past, and also to them which are to come.

7:67 For if he

shall not multiply his mercies, the world would not continue with them that inherit therein.
7:68 And he pardoneth; for if he did not so of his goodness,

that they which have committed iniquities might be eased of them, the ten thousandth part of men should not remain living.

7:69 And being judge, if he

should not forgive them that are cured with his word, and put out the multitude of contentions,
7:70 There should be very few left peradventure

in an
innumerable
multitude.